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Substantially pure microorganism produced uricase - used for quantifying uric acid in blood or urine.

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A substantially pure microorganism producing uricase, which is a microorganism belonging to the genus E. coli transformed with a recombinant vector having a nucleotide sequence coding for the amino acid sequence of residues 1-302 of the 302 amino acid sequence given in the specification, is new. Also claimed are: (1) a substantially pure DNA expressing uricase, which codes for the 302 amino acid sequence given in the specification; and (2) a process for producing uricase, which comprises culturing the above substantially pure microorganism and then

recovering uricase from the culture. USE - The uricase (EC 1.7.3.3.), produced by the microorganism, is used for quantifying uric acid in blood or urine.

ADVANTAGE - As the entire amino acid sequence (302 amino acids) of uricase and the nucleotide sequence (906 bp, given in the specification) coding for the amino acid sequence could be determined in the invention, protein, engineering such as alterations in the specificity of a substrate or coenzyme for this enzyme is made feasible. Dwg.0/7